

# DRAFT

DATE: January 18, 2003

RE: Department draft proposal for Council consideration at the April 2003 quarterly Council meeting in response to concerns by the USDOL.

## **WAC 296-05-007** Rules of procedure

“The WSATC may either adjudicate matter(s) themselves or refer matter(s) to the office of administrative hearings for initial adjudication.”

### **POLICY**

In order to expedite approval of new programs and to approve expansion of existing programs, and to avoid unnecessary litigation and to act swiftly in response to employers' need for registered apprenticeship standards, the Council shall, under WAC 296-05-007, adjudicate objections itself or refer objections to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for initial adjudication in the following manner:

When the Department of Labor and Industries receives objections, the Department shall review the objections with the program sponsor. The sponsor shall submit its responses to objections to the Department. The Department shall attach the responses to the proposed standards and objections for the Council's review.

The Council shall review the proposed standards, objections, and the sponsor's responses. After giving the parties proper notice, the Council may adjudicate certain objections itself in its regularly scheduled quarterly meetings. All interested parties should be prepared to state their objections when the matter in question is on the agenda for the Council's regularly scheduled quarterly meeting.

In instances where the Council refers any objections to the Office of Administrative Hearings, the Council shall give to the OAH specific instructions on which objections are the subject of adjudication. In other words, the Council shall clearly articulate to the OAH the specific objections that correspond to specific items in the proposed standards.

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